

## **Dictatorship Discourse in the UN**

**By: Luis Tovar**

“Dictatorships will know their place and will try to stop abusing human rights,” said the Canadian delegate in General Assembly. Nearly one-hundred students who represented countries from all over the globe came together to defend their opinions on dictatorship in the United Nations. While in the discourse, it felt as though everyone wanted the same result: to find an end to dictatorship in the United Nations. Even though there was a common goal, delegations could not agree to the conditions and terms. This topic escalated to delegations proposing punishments and even war.

During the debate, the United States of America was very vocal with their opinion and suggested several solutions. During an interview with the delegate, one of their points stuck out the most. The delegate mentioned a plan to “encourage the General Assembly to request a special committee be created.” While in the middle of debate the U.S. made it very clear they did not want war and that they did not have a problem with dictatorship in the U.N. as long as no violation of human rights occurred.

The black sheep of the debate seemed to be Haiti. Many of their opinions differed from the rest of the delegations, causing much discourse. During the moderated caucus they stated, “There is no solution.” During the interview, the delegate stressed that this problem could not be solved because there were already too many dictatorships to dismantle in the United Nations. They had no solution and had many arguments with all the proposed ideas.

The delegate of Iceland was very blunt and to the point. Through the course of the debate, they stuck to their opinions and solutions. One of their solutions was to eliminate the countries in the U.N. governed by a dictatorship. The delegate went on to say, “They have no place in the United Nations.” Soon after that quote, many nations were quick to remind Iceland that there is no need to eliminate them and that there should be “no war.”

MUNSA provides opportunities to put yourself in the shoes of others and represent an entire nation. Everyone had a voice and the ability to talk with each other to find a solution to this issue. Dictatorship has been a type of government for centuries, and lots of leaders and regular people have argued for and against it. Overall, although the countries had their differences, they all believed in and fought for human rights during the debate, which is what we all should have and exercise.